

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Robert J. DiStasio, et al.

Serial No. 10/015,408

Examiner James Smith

Filed: December 12, 2001

Group 3723

For: Removal Tool for Locking Nut, Bolt and Clip Systems and Assemblies

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box Non-Fee Amendment

Sir:

This is a response to the Communication dated December 16, 2002 and is further responsive to the communication dated December 4, 2002 and the outstanding Office Actions dated November 22 and October 23, 2002 (Paper No. 5). Please debit or credit Deposit Account No.03-1231 for any overpayments/underpayments. In the Office Action, the examiner requested election of a species.

Applicant elects, without traverse:

FIGs. 30b, 30c, 30d, 30f and 30i.

FIG. 30f shows the locking nut insert disposed in the nut. FIG. 30i shows a locking nut insert partially disposed within and partially extending outboard of the nut. This is a more complex system. In any event, the present invention relates to a removal tool in combination with the locking system. Claim groups for elected species:

Claims 1-6 (generic)

Claims 7, 8 (generic)

Claims 13 (Fig. 30i), 14, 16, 17